

	Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center Policy Manual		Policy Number	1115
			Original Date	01/11/2002
	Department: Social Services		Revised Date	07/09/2015
	Advanced Medical Directive (POLST)			

POLICY:

The Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center will respect the resident's right to determine the course of treatment in compliance with the Patient Self Determination Act.

The Advance Medical Directive form/POLST will be accessible in the resident's medical record. Additional information on living wills, durable power of attorney, guardianships, and other advance directive information that may have been chosen by the resident and/or legal representative will also be in the medical records office.

PROCEDURE:

1. Admission:

- A. Residents who are capable of making their wishes known will be assisted by Social Services in completing an Advanced Directive. Residents and/or their guardians/DPOA who do not wish to make any advance directives can note that on the Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST). (Attachment #1) printed on terra green paper
- B. Social Service staff will interview the resident and the family during the initial assessment process to determine if any type of advanced directives or living will has been made previously. If a valid POLST or Living Will is in place, it will be kept under the Advance Medical Directive form in the medical record in lieu of the facility form.
- C. When the POLST form shows a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate, it will be indicated on the outside cover of the chart, and in the care plan.

2. Review:

- A. Advance Medical Directive/POLST form will be reviewed quarterly by Social Services staff for proper completion and location within the chart.

- B. Social Service staff will offer educational material to all interested families or guardians as requested.
- 3. Use of the Advance Medical Directive Form:
 - A. Advance Medical Directive forms/POLST will be located behind the face sheet. If a living will has been completed prior to admission, it will be used.
 - B. Staff at the Center will ensure that resident care is provided in concurrence with the methods indicated on the Advance Medical Directive form/POLST.
 - C. If no Advanced Directives/POLST and the resident becomes terminal, the guardian/POA or closest of next of kin will be consulted on how aggressive the resident should be treated.
 - D. There should be a doctor's order in the Medical Record of any resident who has an Advance Medical Directive form that indicates (DNR (Do Not Resuscitate)).
 - E. Residents will be treated who have a reversible or treatable condition.
 - F. The original green document will follow the resident upon discharge or transfer with a copy to be kept in the medical record.